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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Sixty-fourth session
Geneva
19 October-6 November 1998

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The sixty-fourth session of the Human Rights Committee will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 19 October to 6 November 1998. The first meeting will be convened on Monday, 19 October 1998 at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the sixty-fourth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 33 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Covenant or the Optional Protocol that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4 which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the sixty-fourth session. In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, representatives of States parties may be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

5. At its sixty-third session, the Committee decided that a working group, established under rules 62 and 89 of its rules of procedure, should meet for a period of one week prior to its sixty-fourth session. The working group is scheduled to meet at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 16 October 1998.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.

5. General comments of the Committee.

6. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, during a session, the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the session. In this connection, it may be noted that the Committee decided at its sixty-third session that the pre-sessional working group would deal not only with communications under the Optional Protocol, but would also address issues under article 40 of the Covenant, prepare concise lists of issues concerning reports scheduled for consideration at the sixty-fourth session, consider any draft general comment that may be put before it, and continue its discussion of methods of work with a view to adopting new guidelines on the examination of State party reports, consider ways of overcoming the backlog of State party reports and of communications awaiting examination, and explore ways of obtaining strengthened Secretariat support, including through the adoption of a plan of action. Moreover, the Committee will continue its discussion of issues addressed to it by the Commission on Human Rights, including the question of fundamental standards of humanity (Commission resolution 1995/29), and the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Commission resolution 1998/34). The Committee will also examine the International Law Commission's Preliminary Conclusions on Reservations to Normative Multilateral Treaties.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A. Reports received

In addition to the reports which are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its sixty-fourth session (see the timetable for consideration of reports under item 4 below), the Secretary-General has received the reports of the following States parties:

Initial reports

State party	Symbol	Date due	Date received
Lesotho	CCPR/C/81/Add.14	1993	8 April 1998
Cambodia	CCPR/C/81/Add.12	1993	14 November 1997
Bosnia and Herzegovina	CCPR/C/81/Add.11	1996	11 March 1997
Kyrgyzstan	CCPR/C/113/Add.1	1996	5 May 1998
Kuwait	CCPR/C/120/Add.1	1997	18 May 1998

Second periodic reports

Afghanistan	CCPR/C/57/Add.5	1989	25 October 1991
Congo	CCPR/C/63/Add.5	1990	9 July 1996
Republic of Korea	CCPR/C/114/Add.1	1996	2 October 1997
Gabon	CCPR/C/128/Add.1	1998	6 February 1998

Third periodic reports

Venezuela	Not yet issued	1993	8 July 1998
Cameroon	CCPR/C/102/Add.2	1995	6 March 1997
Argentina	Not yet issued	1997	20 July 1998

Fourth periodic reports

Romania	CCPR/C/95/Add.7	1994	26 April 1996
Poland	CCPR/C/95/Add.8	1994	7 May 1996
Morocco	CCPR/C/115/Add.1	1996	27 January 1997
Norway	CCPR/C/115/Add.1	1996	4 February 1997
United Kingdom (Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man)	CCPR/C/95/Add.10	1994	12 February 1997
Canada	CCPR/C/103/Add.5	1995	4 April 1997
Japan	CCPR/C/115/Add.3	1996	16 June 1997
Mexico	CCPR/C/123/Add.1	1997	30 June 1997
Chile	CCPR/C/95/Add.11	1994	6 October 1997
Costa Rica	CCPR/C/103/Add.6	1995	6 January 1998
Mongolia	CCPR/C/103/Add.7	1995	20 April 1998
Peru	Not yet issued	1998	3 July 1998

B. Reports due

For the situation with regard to the submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant, reference is made to annex IV of the Committee's annual report to the General Assembly (A/53/40).

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the sixty-fourth session, prepared in consultation with the Chairperson and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Iceland CCPR/C/94/Add.2	Third	Wednesday	21 October
Belgium CCPR/C/94/Add.3	Third	Thursday	22 October
Armenia CCPR/C/92/Add.2	Initial	Monday	26 October
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya CCPR/C/102/Add.1	Third	Tuesday	27 October
Japan CCPR/C/115/Add.3	Fourth	Wednesday	28 October
Austria CCPR/C/83/Add.3	Third	Friday	30 October

In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its sixty-fourth session.

5. General comments of the Committee

Under this item, the Committee will continue consideration of the draft general comments on article 12 and consider any that may be put before it by its pre-sessional working group on article 40.

6. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of the rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under the Optional Protocol.

One hundred and sixty-seven communications are pending before the Committee from earlier sessions. Forty-one of these communications have already been declared admissible and are pending for a decision on the merits, i.e. Views under article 5 (4) of the Optional Protocol. Pursuant to the Committee's new rules of procedure allowing the joint examination of admissibility and merits in appropriate cases, the Committee's examination

of the remaining 126 communications may result in the adoption of Views, or in decisions declaring the communications admissible or inadmissible. In addition, the Committee will have before it summaries of a number of recently registered communications and summaries of new communications registered after its last session, together with an indication of any action which may have been taken by the Special Rapporteur on new communications.

In accordance with article 5, paragraph 3, of the Optional Protocol and rule 82 of the Committee's rules of procedure, this agenda item will be considered in closed meetings.